

CALIFORNIA CHILDREN & FAMILIES COMMISSION

**Thursday, July 19, 2001
Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
550 West Temple Street
Room 381B
Los Angeles, CA 90012**

I. Call to Order.

The meeting was called to order by Chair Reiner at 8:50 a.m.

II. Roll Call.

Present were Commissioners Kim Belshé, Sandra Gutierrez, Susan Lacey, Louis Vismara, Karen Hill-Scott, Theresa Garcia and Chairman Reiner.

III. Approval of Minutes, June 21, 2001 State Commission Meeting.

MOTION: Chairman Reiner moved, seconded by Commissioner Lacey to approve the June 21, 2001 minutes. The motion passed unanimously with the following amendments:

1. The discussion on spending for research in the last meeting concluded in the decision to set aside \$5 million.
2. The essence of the Commission's conversation about the preparation of the CCFC's budget was not represented adequately in the minutes. There was a good conversation about the organizing framework in terms of school readiness and how the Commission's consideration of additional funding needs to take into account the question of what is needed in areas of health care, child care, etc. to make school readiness work, how the Commission needs to be looking in a systematic way for activities that reinforce and compliment what the Commission is trying to do with school readiness.
3. Page 4 contained a typo. "throw million" should read "three million".
4. With respect to the Commission's discussion around the May Revision, Commissioner Belshe requested that the minutes reflect the State Commission's repeated emphasis on the importance of any type of State budget proposal to be reflective of the principles outlined by the Commission.

IV. Chairman's Report

Chairman Reiner reported that the dates for the statewide conference next year have been set. The conference will be held from March 20th-22nd. The title of the conference is Terrific Three's: Families, Communities and Commissions working together for children. The themes and the workshops will include some of the following; school readiness and diversity concepts will be woven into all the workshops; there will be workshops on systemic change, integration, collaboration and sustainability, responsiveness to diverse children, families and communities, promising practices: what works in school readiness and early care and education; and there will be sessions for County Commissioners and Commission staff. There should be 6-7 hundred attendees.

The California Association for the Education of Young Children has been chosen to receive the Summit Award by the American Society of Association Executives for "Heads Up Reading" funded by the Commission.

The new launch date for the Kit for New Parents will be sometime in September. Gloria Estefan was asked to assist the Commission in the launch of the kit.

Chairman Reiner acknowledged the critical role of Univision to the success of the Commission.

Kristina Schake will be moving on to work at a national level with "I am Your Child". Chairman Reiner presented Ms. Schake with a token of appreciation from the Commission.

V. Executive Director's Report

Jane Henderson also acknowledged the work of Kristina Schake.

Jane Henderson reported that some of the small working groups on the Master Plan for School Readiness are working and will present some recommendations at the meeting in August. There is a handout listing the key recommendations. Ms. Henderson noted that all of the recommendations that are coming forth from this work are consistent with the School Readiness Initiative and the work of the Advisory Committee on Diversity. Deborah Reed of PPIC will attend the next workgroup meeting. Ms. Reed is working with the Commission on developing current and future demographics in California for children under the age of five.

The Board of Equalization, at its June 21st administrative meeting, approved a change in the formula used for calculating the tax on tobacco products which may result in an increase in tax revenue of \$70 million per year, \$14 million of which will come to Proposition 10. The BOE has a website on which more information is available (www.boe.ca.gov).

Ms. Henderson provided an update on her visits to County Commissions. She has visited 27 of the 58 counties. The meetings have been an invaluable way to share information.

VI. California Children and Families Association Report

Dorinda Ohnstad reported that there were 85 people in attendance at the last meeting of the Association. Ms. Ohnstad noted that there will be a retreat for the commission association members held on September 30th and October 1st in San Diego.

Ms. Ohnstad introduced Gloria Bryngelson, Executive Director from San Diego County. Ms. Bryngelson stated that the Association has launched its website (www.ccafa.org). Ms. Bryngelson detailed the contents of the new website.

Ms. Ohnstad introduced Pat Wheatley, Executive Director from Santa Barbara County. Ms. Wheatley described efforts around the development of an annual reporting format with the State Commission. A pilot form has been used in parts of the state. The piloting pointed out some further needs in the development of the format. The form has been finalized.

Ms. Ohnstad introduced Mike Ruane, Executive Director from Orange County. Mr. Ruane described efforts around developing a formal process in developing positions on State Commission initiatives as well as developing a legislative platform.

Ms. Ohnstad introduced Mark Friedman, Executive Director from Alameda County. Mr. Friedman described efforts around the development of a regional CBO program in conjunction with the State Commission and the selection of regional representatives, as well as a proactive media strategy. Mr. Friedman recognized Kristina Schake for her tireless effort.

Ms. Ohnstad spoke briefly about the efforts being made by county commissioners and their staff behind the scenes. She emphasized the dedication of the county commissions.

Ms. Ohnstad spoke in support of the technical assistance action item on the current agenda, but noted that it should be considered as the beginning of an evolutionary process.

Chairman Reiner thanked Ms. Ohnstad for her efforts and assured her that the Association and the State Commission are partners in the endeavors described.

Commissioner Vismara acknowledged the efforts of the Association.

Commissioner Hill-Scott echoed the sentiments of appreciation for the work done by the Association. Commissioner Hill-Scott expressed concerns over the technical assistance

being a flat network rather than an organizational network. The need for defining levels of competence at particular levels of the network was identified by Commissioner Hill-Scott.

Commissioner Gutierrez shared her experience of attending the Association meeting.

Commissioner Belshé asked Ms. Ohnstad for the county commission's view of success regarding school readiness. Ms. Ohnstad stated that in addition to responding to the state's expected outcomes the counties will be conducting their own evaluations.

Commissioner Vismara asked for clarification on how the State could support the county efforts in terms of screening for children with disabilities and other special needs and providing expertise. Ms. Ohnstad informed the Commission that the assistance should be as encompassing as possible. Commissioner Vismara suggested that expectations need to be clearly delineated.

VII Communication Directors Report

Kristina Schake provided an update on the paid media campaign. An outline of the report follows.

Campaign Update

- Developed scripts based on results of focus groups, survey
- Reviewed scripts with Advisory Board
- Revised scripts based on Advisory Board feedback
- Developed storyboards for ad testing

Creative Approaches

- Developed three umbrella campaigns, each of which included:
 - :60 launch ad
 - :30 parenting ads
 - :30 ads targeting caregivers
 - :30 anti-smoking ad
- Adapted scripts and executions for specific target audiences:
 - General Market
 - African American
 - Spanish speaking Hispanics
 - Asian language audiences

Ad Testing

- Process included:
 - 9 Focus groups
 - 4 Dial tests
- Groups designed to test:
 - 3 umbrella campaigns

- Individual ads
 - Specific language used in ads
 - Campaign name
 - Ads were adapted for each ethnic group
 - 4 Dial Tests
 - General Market mothers
 - General Market mothers and fathers
 - African American mothers and fathers
 - Spanish-speaking Hispanic mothers and fathers
 - 9 Focus Groups
 - General market smokers
 - General market caregivers
 - Spanish-speaking Hispanic caregivers
 - Mandarin caregivers
 - Mandarin mothers and fathers
 - Korean mothers and fathers
 - Korean caregivers
 - Vietnamese mothers and fathers
 - Ads tested very well
 - People felt empowered, understood main messages
 - Respondents said they found information interesting, useful, motivating
 - Detailed analysis of results currently underway
- Next Steps
- July 25th Advisory Board Meeting
 - Recommendations on which ads to produce
 - Begin production
 - Shoot in early August
 - First ads to begin airing in early September

Commissioner Vismara asked if it would be possible at the August Diversity meeting to have information from the advertising world on how their business deals with issues surrounding people with disabilities and other special needs. Ms. Schake informed the Commission that this topic is planned for discussion.

Commissioner Gutierrez asked how the concept of school readiness can be presented to the community. Ms. Schake explained that there are two approaches to present the information, changing the language so that it is understood by all or moving the concept along.

Commissioner Garcia asked if the Commission would get an opportunity to see the ads before they are field-tested. Ms. Schake stated that they would be provided the information via tapes in August.

Commissioner Belshé asked for an update on the CBO outreach program. Ms. Schake informed the Commission that there are some legal issues that need to be addressed prior to giving a complete update.

VIII. CCFC Budget

Joe Munso presented this action item and reported that with the addition of the items on today's agenda the State Commission will have approved over \$460 million in projects and initiatives. The Commission has been clear that we need to be prudent and systematic in our approach to setting our priorities for the future. To address these issues/concerns staff propose a process that will build on our current investments in research and policy development to guide us on our priorities for investment in the future.

The areas for further development are:

- Children's Health
 - Oral Health
 - Assessment Tools
 - Immunization Systems
 - Others
- Training programs – Formal and Informal Child Caregivers
- Prenatal Care – Access and utilizations
- Research Projects

Timeline to Implement the Proposed Process

- July 19th, 2001
 - Approval of \$200 million, over four years, for investment in the School Readiness Initiative.
 - Approval to release RFP for evaluation/reporting for counties and for School Readiness Initiative.
 - Approval for \$1.0 million for the Commission to contract for TA services needed to implement the School Readiness Initiative and for other high priority TA needs identified by the counties.
 - Direct staff to coordinate meetings with interested parties to identify possible priorities in area for further development to further our vision of School Readiness.
 - Approve letter to be sent to entities that submitted proposals informing them of the Commission's plan to suspend further investments until spring of 2002.

August through November 2001

- Staff will focus on the implementation of the School Readiness Initiative, the Diversity Committee, the Master Plan, and the new Media Campaign.
- Staff will present a strategic business plan to the Commission.
- Projects will only be brought forward to the Commission if they are needed to implement/compliment the School Readiness Initiative, or to address emerging

issues.

- Staff will coordinate meetings of interested parties to develop strategy papers describing options for possible investment in area for further development.
- Approve the funding and the award for the evaluation contract for School Readiness and the county reporting system.

January 2002 through March 2002

- Findings from the Strategic plan for children with disabilities and special needs will be presented. This may present the Commission with area they wish to invest funds.
- Delivery of revenue forecasting model for use in budget deliberations and long term financial planning
- Delivery of the Public Opinion Survey of parents, policy makers, and area for investment.
- Staff will present strategy papers describing possible investment associated with the areas that required further development.
- Presentations of the findings contained in the Master Plan.
- Presentation of preliminary findings on the matching fund program for retention incentives.

May 2002

- Staff will develop final recommendations for possible initiatives based on information provided by, at a minimum, the:
 - Master Plan
 - The Strategic plan for children with disabilities and special needs
 - CHIS
 - Barriers to Inclusive Child Care
 - The public/policy makers opinion survey
 - Strategy Papers
 - Preliminary findings from the incentive/retention program
 - Diversity Advisory Committee
 - Central Valley Project
 - CCAFA
- Approval of final recommendations for priority areas of investment.

This proposed process will set aside the funding of new projects at this time and will ensure funding in the future will be based on solid research and input from the Commission's partners. The proposed process will also allow staff to focus its resources on the implementations of the school readiness initiative including technical assistance and evaluation, the Diversity Committee, the new media campaign, and the Master Plan.

Summary of Recommended Actions by the Commission

Approve funds for:

- Evaluation activities associated with School Readiness/County Reporting
- Continuing partnership with the Attorney General's Office for Safe From the Start program
- Implementing Technical Assistance (TA) Services to support the School Readiness Initiative and other critical TA needs of counties
- Approval of \$200 million over four years for the School Readiness Initiative
- Agree to forego funding other projects until early spring (except for any potential emerging issues).
- Direct staff to further develop potential initiatives in areas for additional development.
- Adopt the timelines presented to guide the determination of our priorities for future investment.
- Approve the release of a letter to agencies that have submitted proposals to the Commission informing them of our new timeline process for determining priorities.

In addition, Mr. Munso reminded Commissioners that several northern County Commissions have been working on oral health issues and are expected to return again. The Central Valley project is also expected to come back before the Commission with a proposal for funding.

Commissioner Gutierrez asked for a State budget update. Mr. Munso informed the Commission that staff is working currently with the administration on issues surrounding the \$30 million in the state's budget bill.

Commissioner Vismara asked where parents or pregnant women dealing with drug abuse or incarceration would be addressed. Mr. Munso informed the Commission that those issues would be dealt with in the prenatal workgroup. The fathers' group may fall under School Readiness. Commissioner Vismara suggested considering prenatal as part of children's health.

Commissioner Lacey suggested continuity from ECE to K12 and back to ECE.

Commissioner Belshé noted that the feedback on oral health has been very vague. Commissioner Belshé suggested the inclusion of a State Commissioner in the workgroups.

MOTION: Chairman Reiner moved, seconded by Commissioner Lacey to approve the Budget item as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

IX. School Readiness Initiative Allocation and Application Process

Jane Henderson presented this action item. The item is outlined below.

Fiscal Recommendations

- How should we disburse funds to counties?
 - Use allocations to determine an individual county's share over 4 year 'launch' period
- How should we allocate the funds?
 - Use a formula that allocates funds based on the blending of county birth rates and the number of students in schools in deciles 1-3 (API – available when fiscal and quality requirements are met)
- Will there be a county match?
 - Yes – counties will need to provide a 1:1 match (lesser match as incentive for Stage 1 sites until July 1, 2002 – 50%)
- Where can county match come from?
 - Any source as long as it is a cash commitment
- Will we provide implementation grants?
 - Provide between \$25K and \$100K per year in addition to allocation with no local match required
- Will there be minimum allocations?
 - Provide a minimum allocation of \$100,000

Target Communities

- Communities served by schools with Academic Performance Index in deciles 1-3
 - Estimate
 - 1,385 schools
 - over 800,000 children
 - 85% low income
 - 48% English Language Learners
 - 75% Latino

Overall 'SR' Principles

- Voluntary family participation
- Family focus and decision-making
- Community investment and design
- Inclusive and culturally competent
- Addresses needs of children with disabilities and other special needs
- Collaboration
- Builds on family and community assets
- Coordinates existing services and infrastructure
- School based or linked
- Plan with connected assessment, prioritized goals, strategies, partners, and evaluation (based on disaggregated data)
- Comprehensive training

- Results based accountability and strong evaluation component
- Systems Integration and redesign
- Standards and research based, plus ‘promising practices’

5 Essential and Coordinated Elements for ‘SR’

- 1. Early Care and Education
- 2. Parenting/Family Support
- 3. Health and Social Services
- 4. Schools’ Readiness for Children
- 5. Site Infrastructure, Evaluation, and Administration

Criteria/Eligibility Recommendations

- RFF Matching Funds Grant Application Narrative asks for description of:
 - Local partners and collaborative decision-making
 - Assessed strengths and needs of children, families and communities
 - Expected results
 - Current and new strategies for 5 ‘Essential and Coordinated Elements’ plus coordination processes
 - Staffing and professional development plans
 - Budget: CCFC and Local Matching Funds
- Review Criteria – Stages 1,2,3
- Categories: 5 Essential and Coordinated Elements for School Readiness; Staffing and Training; Collaborative Administration and Governance
- Purposes:
 - 1. County Self-Assessment to determine if School Readiness Program is Stage 1,2,3
 - 2. Review/Selection Criteria (County and State)
- Review/Selection Process:
 - County Level – identify, develop, and review potential School Readiness Programs for Stage 1,2, or 3; secure County CFC and local matching funds
 - State Level – ensure that fiscal and quality evaluation/research and training /mentoring needs; allocation of State CCFC funds
- Functions of ‘Very Preliminary Service Levels and Criteria for 5 Essential Elements’:
 - Provides examples of standards to guide practice and assist county-level development and implementation
 - Gives counties flexibility with using and adapting strategies to reflect local strengths and needs
 - Will evolve as research and practice guide School Readiness Programs

Proposed “RFF Launch” Timeline

- Phase 1
 - RFF out August 2001
 - App due Oct 15; start Nov 2001
 - App due Dec 31; start Feb 2002

- Phase 2
 - RFF out December 2001
 - App due May 15; start July 2002
 - Quarterly application process to June 2003

Technical Assistance and Evaluation Recommendations

- Design and Policy Recommendations for Technical Assistance and for Evaluation are provided as separate agenda items.

Next Steps

- CCFC reviews/approves funds for School Readiness Programs; authorizes release of RFF and selection of sites
- Review and discuss implementation resources and strategies with School Readiness Advisory Committee
- Release Stage 1 RFF
- RFF Information Meetings for County Commissions and Local Partners (August)
- Develop and Release RFP for Evaluation Contractor
- Develop and Implement Plans for TA
- Media/Public Relations Support:
 - Media Launch for Phase 1: State and County
 - County Commission Public Information Toolkit (beginning in July) plus County Media Support
 - Information on these and other School Readiness media/public relations efforts to be presented at future meeting

Commissioner Belshé asked for clarification on where county matching would come from. Ms. Henderson informed the Commission that it could come from resources that are already in the system.

Commissioner Belshé asked why it was setup as ongoing as opposed to a one-year program. Joe Munso informed the Commission that this was merely a technical reference and counties could draw down on this for more than one year.

Commissioner Belshé asked for a range of allocations. Joe Munso explained that the range would be approximately \$300,000 to \$16 million annually

Commissioner Belshé asked for clarification on the different phases (1,2, and 3). Ms. Henderson informed the Commission that these phases are more of a timing issue, i.e., there will be a rolling process through these phases.

Public Comment

John Siegel, Trinity County, spoke on behalf of Trinity County's Commission. The Commission's official position is one of opposition. Mr. Siegel noted that, in his opinion, if the minimum allocation is increased the Trinity County Commission's position would

be one of support. Jane Henderson informed the Commission that the official position of the Association was one of support with the understanding that special consideration would be given to the 13 smaller, more rural counties.

Mary Emmons, Los Angeles County, asked for clarification on the concept of matching funds. Ms. Emmons urged the Commission to be as broad as possible in using matching funds in order to maximize leverage. Joe Munso informed the Commission that any real, as opposed to in kind, funds would be acceptable. Ms. Emmons inquired as how the counties would go about identifying their partners. Ms. Henderson informed the Commission that there is agreement that certain partners are required and additional partners are encouraged. Ms. Emmons asked for details on how the counties should establish these partnerships. Ms. Henderson explained that, while there are established guidelines, no set of rules for establishing the partnerships has been formulated. Ms. Emmons asked if there would be funding of models. Ms. Henderson informed her that there may be model programs.

Commissioner Belshé asked how the Commission would be providing information about best practices to the counties. Ms. Henderson informed the Commission that there will be multiple strategies for providing best practices that will be detailed in the next agenda item.

Donita Stromgren, California Childcare Resource and Referral Network, suggested that the draft documents should be available for other interested parties to provide feedback. Ms. Stromgren urged that the application process include early care and education providers. She expressed concern over duplication of services.

Commissioner Hill-Scott suggested that the programs be monitored in some fashion to ensure compliance. She expressed concern over the small counties not receiving equitable representation. Commissioner Hill-Scott noted that these counties are a situational context from which all may learn from.

Chairman Reiner noted that resources are limited.

Jane Henderson clarified that some small counties are eligible to participate. Joe Munso suggested setting aside funds for those of the 13 counties that want to participate in some way.

Commissioner Lacey urged for a spirit of cooperation while moving forward with this initiative.

MOTION: Chairman Reiner moved, seconded by Commissioner Lacey to approve the Action item as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

X. School Readiness Initiative/Assessment

Theresa Garcia presented this agenda item. The proposed 3 million dollar partnership money is now back in the state budget. The language is very specific. It is to be used for the development and validation of a School Readiness assessment tools. There will be a task force meeting called in the near future.

Commissioner Vismara asked if there would be room for diversity inputs into the development of this item.

Commissioner Belshé asked what the goal was of the assessment tool and how it differs from other types of assessments that are currently available and being used. Theresa Garcia informed the Commission that the goal of this tool is to collect baseline data on cognitive skills on an annual basis to see if the children are being positively affected by Proposition 10.

Commissioner Vismara asked if there was enough flexibility in fund usage requirements to allow for the identification of those children that are at high risk for not performing well.

XI. School Readiness Initiative/Technical Assistance

Richard Iniguez, Manager, Technical Assistance Unit for the State Commission, presented this item. The request is for up to \$1,000,000 to implement, coordinate, and provide Proposition 10 related technical assistance services under the administration of California Children and Families State Commission staff. The requested funds will be used to provide immediate technical assistance oversight with Proposition 10 counties submitting proposals for School Readiness Centers/Programs, and develop a system of technical assistance coordination for all participating Proposition 10 counties. There will be a periodic update for the Commission with actual expenditure information.

A hard copy of the proposal was distributed to the Commission members.

Chairman Reiner asked what the scope of the proposal would be in terms of funding. Ms. Henderson stated that staff has identified at least a \$1,000,000 need. If that capacity is reached, staff will come back before the Commission with updates on funding allocation in the early spring of 2002.

Commissioner Gutierrez spoke in support of issues surrounding English learners in this context. Jane Henderson recognized Commissioner Gutierrez' comments as staff direction to keep this issues in the forefront as this item is developed.

A general discussion surrounding the exact use of the million dollars followed. The general use of the funds was described. Commissioner Hill-Scott directed staff to create a model for estimating demand or deployment and present that model to the Commission.

Commissioner Vismara asked what the problem would be in not approving the funds until the model was developed. Mr. Iniguez informed the Commission that it would simply delay the delivery of TA services. Jane Henderson noted that the item is slightly premature, but that there are real needs for the funds and that a complete plan will be developed. This item is being presented now since an August meeting of the Commission is not planned.

MOTION: Commissioner Lacey moved, seconded by Commissioner Vismara to approve the Action item as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

XII. Safe from the Start

Mary Anne Riehl-Campos presented this action item. This request is for additional funding to expand the California Safe from the Start (SFTS) Project that was initiated in 2000. The project is a comprehensive strategy involving communities throughout the state to ensure that California's children, specifically those 0-5 years old, grow up in healthy and safe environments and are ready to start school. This request is for \$1,296,648 for a period of July 1, 2001 to June 30, 2004. The purpose of these funds is to continue supporting local communities in their efforts to reduce the number of children exposed to violence. This support involves educating community members about children exposed to violence, providing training and technical assistance to implement effective strategies at the local level, building capacity and making policy and structural changes thereby creating an improved service delivery system. Support would include, but not be limited to, developing a Promising Strategies/Program Evaluation Guidebook, producing a Safe from the Start Educational Video, holding a one-day conference on issues such as funding opportunities, promising practices, program evaluation and sustainability, and enhancing and maintaining a Safe from the Start web site.

Craig Perini, Lead Manager, Safe from the Start, noted that there are no commitments from outside departments at this time. There have been initial discussions with state departments about contributions of funds from these departments.

MOTION: Chairman Reiner moved, seconded by Commissioner Lacey to approve the Action item as presented. The motion was passed with Commissioner Vismara abstaining.

XIII. Legislation

The Commission adopted positions on the following bills:

Non-Commission sponsored bills:

AB 636 (Steinberg) – Child Welfare Services Improvement and Accountability Act

This bill would enact the CWS Improvement and Accountability Act of 2001. It would require the State Department of Social Services (DSS) to establish by July 1, 2003, the California Child and Family Service Review System (CFSR), in order to review, commencing July 1, 2004, all county child welfare systems.

Commissioner Vismara asked if there was funding for this bill. There is no direct appropriation for this bill.

MOTION: Commissioner Belshé moved, seconded by Commissioner Gutierrez to take a position of “support” on the above bill. The motion passed unanimously.

AB 1119 (Hertzberg) – Internet-based Health and Education Passport System for Children in Foster Care

This bill would establish an Internet-based program for health and educational providers who provide services to foster children to record the child’s health status and treatment and educational records. It would require the Department of Social Services (DSS) to create the system as a pilot project in two counties and to ensure the confidentiality of the information collected. AB 1119 is a two-part bill; the second part would extend eligibility for foster youth from ages 18 to age 23 while they participate in an education or training program designed to create a bridge to their self-sufficiency.

Commissioner Vismara asked how the data processing would be setup. The bill states that the Department of Social Services is to create the system.

Public Comment

Jaime Morrow stated that the bill was long overdue.

Brian Giddell, Corporation for Standards and Outcomes, spoke in support of this bill.

MOTION: Commissioner Gutierrez moved, seconded by Commissioner Belshé to take a position of ‘support’ on the above bill. The motion passed unanimously.

AB 1330 (Steinberg) – Foster Care Provider Reimbursement Rates

This bill would require a 5 percent annual increase through Fiscal Year 2005-06 in the rates paid for foster family homes, specialized care increments, clothing allowances for foster children, and the Adoption Assistance Program (AAP).

MOTION: Commissioner Vismara moved, seconded by Commissioner Gutierrez to take a position of ‘support’ on the above bill. The motion passed unanimously.

SB 1038 (Polanco) – California Healthy Families Vaccine Purchase Act

This bill would enact the California Healthy Families Vaccine Purchase Act. It would allow the Healthy Families Program to participate in the federal discounted bulk purchase of childhood vaccines.

Commissioner Belshé noted recognized that the prior concerns over physician involvement in a government program must have been satisfied to some degree.

MOTION: Commissioner Belshé moved, seconded by Commissioner Vismara to take a position of ‘support’ on the above bill. The motion passed unanimously.

Commission-sponsored bills:

AB 734 (Chan) – California Children and Families Commission Funds

The bill is almost ready to go the Governor with the inclusion of cessation of smoking.

AB 735 (Chan) – Conflict of Interest (County Children and Families Commissions)

The bill has moved through the legislature and is now in the Governor’s office for action.

XIV. Equity Principles

Commissioner Gutierrez presented opening remarks on the Diversity Committee and introduced Barbara Marquez.

Barbara Marquez explained the significance of the three items under discussion and introduced Whit Hayslip, Patricia Phipps and Rafael Lopez.

Whit Hayslip thanked the Commission for the opportunity to serve on the Diversity Committee and for the leadership of Sandra Gutierrez and Lou Vismara. Mr. Hayslip also thanked Jane Henderson and staff for their efforts on behalf on the Diversity Committee.

An outline of that presentation follows:

There were many challenging moments in the development of the Vision Statement, Equity Principles, and Diversity Glossary. Although there were struggles given the multiple and varied views represented on the Committee (and those expressed from the

audience), the ensuing debate and dialogue were found to be enriching and productive. The products presented today are 4th and 5th generation versions. The two-day retreat played a critical forum for the committee, where eventually common ground was found. The documents and the terms used in the documents should prove to be useful to others in continuing the discussion and in finding common ground where similar local debates have and continue to go on throughout the state. The Principles and Glossary are reflective of families throughout California.

Rafael Lopez spoke on the importance of the work being done in this arena. An outline of his comments follows. The Advisory Committee on Diversity also developed these Equity Principles with the local audience in mind and in response to the county Commissions' requests for support in this area. The Advisory Committee on Diversity feels strongly that the Equity Principles will also be beneficial to the children and families served through local programs funded by the County Commissioners. The introduction of the Equity Principles should be strategic and accompanied with needed technical assistance and other resources.

Commissioner Vismara closed this item by thanking those who have played critical roles in the development of the document.

Commissioner Belshé offered words of appreciation to the presenters and then asked for clarification on why the principles were characterized as principles on diversity as opposed to principles on equity. Commissioner Gutierrez informed the Commission that diversity "is" and equity "isn't", so it was chosen to imply an action model.

Commissioner Belshé asked how geographic diversity play into the definition. Rafael Lopez stated that geographic diversity was a considered a given, given the size of the state. Commissioner Vismara suggested that this observation be considered further by the committee.

Commissioner Hill-Scott recognized the presentation as being real and concrete and has made diversity normative, and commented that there is room for improvement in the glossary, specifically, clearly define equity, family and professional competence.

XV Adjournment

MOTION: Commissioner Belshé moved, seconded by Commissioner Vismara to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously.